



**ICEA Executive Committee
Minutes
April 9, 2008**

Members Present: Jane Borst, Kelly Hancock, Mary Stevens (by conference call), Troy McCarthy, Carrie Sodders (by conference call), LauraBelle Sherman-Proehl, and Brian Wilkes

Excused: Mary Nelson, Carolyn Nelson

Staff: Julie Curry, Barb Khal, Marion Kresse, Kelly Schulte, Lisa Sharp

Guests: Jeff Anderson, Julie Allison

DESCRIPTION

Troy McCarthy called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes:

There was a motion for approval of the February 13, 2008, Executive Committee minutes. Minutes of the February 13, 2008, Executive Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Lead Agency & Signatory Update:

- The Signatory Agencies have completed their work on drafting the next five-year MOA. They will give to their Attorney Generals for review. Signatures will be obtained after Departments have individually approved it. Due date is June 15, 2008.
- The April 24th OT/PT state Conference is bringing in Dr. Carol Trivette, who will present latest research on natural environments/learning opportunities. An announcement will be sent to the Council members.
- Iowa received the letter from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) that approved the data submitted for each indicator in the 2008 Annual Progress Report.
- Executive Committee was updated on the sections of the Early ACCESS chapter of the AEA Procedures Manual (Birth to 21). The Committee would like to know how often will procedures be reviewed and updated. There are things that will need changing in the future (e.g., new Part C regulations, web-based IFSP and electronic files, Medicaid changes). There will be a need to build review and revisions into the plan for implementing the Procedures Manual.

- The process agreed upon for alignment of procedures with Signatory Agencies is that the Lead Agency will send drafts from EA Procedures Manual Committee to Signatory Agency Liaisons for review and input. The Signatory Partners will identify red flags for collaboration and implementation. They will also give input back to Lead Agency EA staff.
- Department of Human Services- Julie Allison is now the Bureau Chief, Child Protective Services and Margaret White is now Bureau Chief for Child Welfare Services.
- On April 21st there will be a Prevention of Child Abuse conference. There will be an Early ACCESS display.
- The Legislature is getting closer to expanding HAWK-I funding.
- The State Child Care Advisory Council is looking at increasing special needs child care rates because they have not kept up with regular child care rates.

Policy Discussion

Policy Discussion Medicaid Rule Change:

The input from the March 21 Council meeting was reviewed. It was decided that until there is more information about how Iowa will implement the Rule changes it will be hard to inform parents about how the changes will affect their choices.

This discussion will be a standing item on the agenda until changes are implemented.

There will need to be a unified approach across agencies to inform families of changes.

1st Five Healthy Mental Development-Sonni Vierling

This initiative is a bottom up approach to system change, so communication occurs at the local level. So there is a need to figure out key messages about 1st Five, to deliver to the Regional Early ACCESS Liaisons and Coordinators. How will they work with Sonni Vierling and the Planning Grants in their areas/cities?

There will be training on the Informal Concerns process at the 1st Five May 5 meeting.

There was a request to develop more guidance about informed clinical opinion.

Informal Concerns Process-Quarterly update-Marion Kresse

A concern was initiated by a partner because there has been a drop in Department of Human Service referrals to Early ACCESS of children who are drug exposed/affected.

The reasons for this change are being investigated.

There was a discussion about the need to clarify what the infrastructure is for the Informal Concerns process. There will need to be guidance on the difference between a systems concern and a child specific concern. How will this be explained to families?

There was also a need identified to train the 1st Five local programs on Early ACCESS due process procedures, so they can know how to best address system or child concerns..

Planning for May 16 ICEA Council Meeting- Troy McCarthy:

There will need to be time on the agenda to discuss the Service Coordination priority that had been chosen by the members. It would help members to have some basic information about Service Coordination and the training plan. There can then be time to get input from members of the Executive Committee to guide future Council activities.

Sharing:

There will be an all-day workshop on May 8 by Susan Peoples, a nationally renowned speaker will conduct the workshop on Down Syndrome. If interested, contact Troy McCarthy. advocate@hadsa.org

Iowa's Family Health Plan 2008 was shared by Jane Borst. This report describes the health priorities for Maternal and Child Health in Iowa. Note: Priority #5: Minimize developmental delay through early intervention services for children 0-3 years, reports that Iowa served 2.7 percent of Iowa's 0-3 year old children in 2006, using the Early ACCESS Child Count. This meets the recommended federal target of 2 percent served.

Closing/Adjourn: Troy entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion carried and meeting adjourned.